

Message Text

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SECDEF WASHDC
INFO CSAF
USNMR SHAPE
CINCUSAFE
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT
OSAF
AFSC ANDREWS AFB MD
ESD LG HANSCOM AB MA
ALL NATO CAPITALS

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SEC DEF FOR ODDR&E/IP/TWP, OASD/ISA/I&L. SECSTATE FOR EUR/RPM.
CSAF FOR RD/XO/RDP/RDPW/CVAW. OSAF FOR SAFRD. AFSC FOR
SD. ESD FOR YWT. AMEMB THE HAGUE, PASS TO RADLO FOR MIRMAN.
USCINEUR FOR J-5.

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, OCON, AWACS, MILI
SUBJECT: TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING OF THE HIGH LEVEL GROUP ON AIRBORNE
EARLY WARNING, MARCH 29-30, 1977

REF: USNATO 1449 DTG 141745Z MAR 77.

SUMMARY: THE HLG REVIEWED THE RESULTS OF THE MARCH 25 DPC
MINISTERIAL MEETING, DECIDED TO DEFER THE REQUIREMENT FOR
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AN ALTERNATE DATA LINK, AGREED TO TERMINATE THE EUTRONIC
CONTRACT DEFINITION STUDY AS SOON AS CRITICAL DATA ITEMS
ARE AVAILABLE, AND AGREED, SUBJECT TO BELGIAN AND DUTCH
RESERVATIONS, THAT TRANSLATION PROCESSORS FOR NATIONAL
SOFTWARE FACILITIES WOULD BE COMMON FUNDED. END SUMMARY.

1. THE CNAD HLG ON AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING HELD ITS 2TTH
MEETING AT NATO HEADQUARTERS ON MARCH 29-30, 1977. COL
D. KORETZ AND LT COL J. WANAMAKER, HQ USAF/RDPW, REPRESENTED
THE UNITED STATES. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING FOLLOW.

2. ASYG (DEFENSE SUPPORT) LABERGE SUMMARIZED THE RESULTS OF THE MARCH 25 DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING. IT WAS HIS OPINION THAT THE FINAL DECISION WOULD PROBABLY BE IMPLEMENTED VIA THE PERMREPS RATHER THAN BY ANOTHER DPC IN JULY 1977. HE SAID HE HOPED TO MAKE AN APPROACH TO FRANCE SOON WITH A PROPOSAL FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION WHICH WOULD INCORPORATE THE CFM-56 ENGINE. HE ECHOED THE US REPRESENTATIVE'S STATEMENT THAT THE MAJOR ACTIVITY OF THE HLG IN THE UPCOMING MONTHS SHOULD BE TO RESOLVE AS MANY SUBSIDIARY ISSUES AS POSSIBLE AND BE READY TO MAKE A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PROGRAM AT THE MAY 1977 DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING.

3. LABERGE REPORTED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED THE HLG LETTER OM FMS PROCEDURES (REFTEL). INSTEAD OF PURSUING THE ISSUE WITH THE NADREPS, HE SAID HE WOULD REPRESENT EUROPEAN NATIONS' VIEWS DIRECTLY TO THE USG AND SOLICIT A RESPONSE TO THE EXPRESSED CONCERNS. FYI: THE NATO AEW PROGRAM OFFICE (NAPO) HAS DECIDED TO REFRAIN FROM A DIRECT REQUEST TO THE USG ON WAIVER OF GAO AUDIT PROCEDURES AND COST ACCOUNTING STANDARDS, PENDING LABERGE'S INITIATIVE ON THE LARGER QUESTION OF FMS PROCEDURES. END FYI.

4. NAPO BRIEFED THE HLG ON RESULTS OF THE SECOND MEETING
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OF AD HOC GROUP ON ECM RESISTANT COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (ERDS), THE AVAILABILITY OF JTIDS AND MACS TO MEET THE SCHEDULE FOR THE FIRST NATO AIRCRAFT, AND THE POSSIBLE NEED FOR AN ALTERNATE DATA LINK (ADL). THE HLG ALSO ADDRESSED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN DETAILED DISCUSSIONS:

(1) THE TIME REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE FREQUENCY CLEARANCE FOR JTIDS OPERATION IN EUROPE (ESTIMATED TO BE TWO YEARS BY NAPO); (2) FREQUENCY CLEARANCE FOR MACS AND THE REQUIREMENT FOR AEW PROGRAM FUNDING OF FURTHER MACS DEVELOPMENT AFTER CY-77; (3) THE DATE WHEN PRODUCTION JTIDS EQUIPMENT WILL BE AVAILABLE; (4) THE SCHEDULE MISMATCH OF BOTH ERCS CANDIDATES WITH THE DELIVERY OF THE FIRST NATO AIRCRAFT; AND (5) THE USE OF ADL OR MARITIME INTERFACES AND THE 407L MESSAGE PROCESSING CENTER (MPC) TO CLOSE THE SCHEDULE GAP. AFTER EXTENSIVE DELIBERATIONS THE HLG TOOK THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

A. THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT AT THIS TIME FOR AN ADL.

B. MARITIME INTERFACES AND THE 407L MPC CAN PROVIDE SOME INTERFACE CAPABILITY UNTIL ERCS IS AVAILABLE (THE SCHEDULE MISMATCH IS 6-12 MONTHS).

C. NAPO SHOULD IMMEDIATELY INITIALTE WITH ARFA A FREQUENCY ALLOCATION REQUEST, TO INCLUDE A FREQUENCY ALLOCATION FOR TESTING.

D. A TRADEOFF STUDY BETWEEN THE JTIDS CLASS 1 AND

HUGHES IMPROVED TERMINAL IS NOT DESIRED AT THIS TIME.

E. CONTINUED TO ENDORSE JTIDS AS THE INTERIM ERCS
SOLUTION.

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USCINEUR FOR J-5.

FYI: THE SCHEDULE MISMATCH AS SEEN BY NAPO IS PREDICATED
UPON A TWO-YEAR PERIOD FOR ACHIEVING FREQUENCY
SUPPORT IN EUROPE AND TWENTY-TWO MONTHS FOR JTIDS TERMINAL
PRODUCTION. THE US SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO COMPRESS
THESE ESTIMATES BY ASSISTING NAPO IN THEIR REQUEST FOR
FREQUECN Y SUPPORT AND BY PROVIDING NATO AND ARFA WITH
FREQUENCY COMPATIBILITY TESTING RESULTS AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE. ADDITIONALLY, THE US SHOULD REVIEW THE NAPO
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION TIME FOR JTIDS OF TWENTY-TWO MONTHS.
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END FYI.

5. AS A RESULT OF EXTENSIVE NEGOTIATIONS WITH EUTRONIC,
IN RESPONSE TO HLG TASKING, NAPO PRESENTED TWO COURSES
OF ACTION FOR RESOLVING THE GROUND ENVIRONMENT CONTRACT

DEFINITION COST AND SCHEDULE OVERRUN. THE HLG DECIDED TO TERMINATE THE EUTRONIC CONTRACT IN AS SHORT A TIME AS POSSIBLE, WHILE STILL ASSURING A MEASURE OF COMPETITIVENESS IN THE SOFTWARE ACQUISITION AND REQUIRING DELIVERY OF ALL CRITICAL CONTRACT DATA ITEMS. THE CONTRACT SHOULD CONCLUDE IN JUNE 1977.

6. THE HLG DISCUSSED THE ISSUE OF VOTING REQUEST OF NATIONS THE NAPO WILL DEVELOP PROPOSED VOTING RIGHTS PROCEDURES FOR STAFFING BY NATIONS PRIOR TO THE NEXT SUBGROUP III MEETING. THE US REP STRESSED THE POINT THAT THE AGREED PROCEDURE SHOULD PROTECT ALL NATIONS FROM BEING FORCED TO ACCEPT DISCRETIONARY COST INCREASES, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ALLOWING THE PROJECT MANAGER AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS FLEXIBILITY TO PROPERLY MANAGE THE PROGRAM. SIMILARLY, THE PROCEDURE SHOULD ALLOW ACCOMMODATION WITHOUT UNDUE RESTRICTIONS ON UNAVOIDABLE COST GROWTHS. IN GENERAL, THE HLG ACCEPTED THE US VIEW OF THE PROBLEM AND RESOLUTION SEEMS POSSIBLE. FYI. PRIVATELY, NAPO SOLICITED INPUTS FROM THE US REP ON POSSIBLE WORDING OF THE VOTING RIGHTS PROCEDURE. END FYI.

7. NAPO PRESENTED ITS APPROACH FOR ASSURING INTEROPERABILITY BETWEEN THE AIRBORNE SEGMENT OF NATO AEW AND THE GROUND ENVIRONMENT THROUGH THE USE OF AN INTEROPERABILITY SPECIFICATION. NAPO ALSO PRESENTED PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

FOR RESOLVING OVERALL SYSTEMS RESPONSIBILITY CONCERNS THROUGH USE OF AN ASSOCIATE CONTRACTOR RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE RESPECTIVE CONTRACTORS. HLG AGREED THAT THIS SUBJECT WOULD BE A MAJOR TOPIC AT THE NEXT HLG MEETING. CONFIDENTIAL

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8. REPRESENTATIVES AGREED THAT THERE WAS NO OBJECTION TO NATO AEW USING THEIR NATIONS' AIRSPACE OR ORIGINATING A MISSION WITHIN THEIR NATION. ADDITIONALLY, SEVERAL REPRESENTATIVES OFFERED CANDIDATES AS FORWARD OPERATING BASES.

9. HLG ACCEPTED AS A GENERAL GUIDELINE THAT MANPOWER FOR FORCE OPERATIONS, TESTING AND TRAINING WOULD BE PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH FINANCIAL SHARE SIZES.

10. HLG ALSO AGREED THAT TRANSLATION PROCESSORS FOR NATIONAL SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE FACILITIES SHOULD BE COMMON FUNDED WITHIN THE NATO AEW PROGRAM. THE BELGIAN AND DUTCH REPS RESERVED THEIR NATIONS' POSITIONS, SINCE THEY HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS, AND THE DUTCH REP POINTED OUT THAT THE NETHERLANDS DOES NOT HAVE A NATIONAL SOFTWARE FACILITY.

11. THE NAPO PROGRAM MANAGER ADVISED THE HLG THAT DUE

TO THE NUMBER OF CHANGES THAT HAVE OCCURRED, THE BOEING PROPOSAL SHOULD BE UPDATED. HE WILL REQUEST, VIA THE SILENCE PROCEDURE, HLG CONCURRENCE TO PROCEED ONCE THE COST OF UPDATING IS KNOWN. THE US REP ADVISED THAT THE US IS STUDYING THE POSSIBILITY OF COST SAVINGS TO NATO THROUGH INCREASED DATA PROCESSING (HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE) COMMONALITY BETWEEN THE US E-3A AND NATO AEW AIRCRAFT. HE POINTED OUT THAT SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD REQUIRE ALTERATION TO THE US PROGRAM. THE US WAS PREPARED TO CONSIDER SUCH ALTERATION, SINCE THE BENEFITS OF COMMONALITY AND THE COST SAVINGS TO NATO WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT. WITH REGARD TO SOFTWARE, THE US REP NOTED THAT TWO APPROACHES ARE POSSIBLE. THE FIRST WOULD BE A FULL UP NATO CAPABILITY, AND THE SECOND A MORE MODEST VERSION WHICH WOULD PROVIDE A GOOD CAPABILITY WHICH COULD THEN GROW, BASED UPON OPERATIONAL
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EXPERIENCE AS WELL AS THE CURRENTLY PERCEIVED REQUIREMENT.

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HE SUGGESTED THAT, IF SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONAL SAVINGS ARE POSSIBLE, THIS LATTER PROPOSAL SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE ANY PROGRAM SHORT-FALL. THE PROGRAM MANAGER SAID THAT SUCH A CONFIGURATION CHANGE WOULD HAVE TO BE APPROVED BY NATIONS. FYI: IT IS THE US REP'S VIEW THAT THE US SHOULD CONTINUE TO DEFINE BOTH ALTERNATIVES, AND EVENTUALLY OFFER THIS PROPOSAL TO NATO. END FYI.

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12. THE HLG WILL HOLD ITS NEXT MEETING AT NATO HEADQUARTERS ON MAY 5, 1977.

13. COMMENT: SUBSEQUENT TO THE MEETING WE LEARNED THAT AMBASSADOR TINE' (FRANCE) HAD REQUESTED AND RECEIVED FROM SYG LUNS COPIES OF PO/77/46 AND THE VERBATIM RECORD OF THE DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING ON AEW. END COMMENT. STRAUSZ-HUPE'

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